# SCHWEGMAN = LUNDBERG = WOESSNER = KLUTH

Intellectual Property Attorneys

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March 17, 2004

Patent and Trademark Office Assistant Secretary and Commissioner Of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sirs:

Enclosed is a Notice of Allowance. Please be advised that while the NOA does match a matter being handled by our firm, we have already received this document independently and the Notice of Allowability following this document is for a matter that is not in our database. I believe these two documents were conjoined in error.

Should you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me at (612) 371-2113.

Very truly yours,

Dena L. Reuther

**Enclosures** 





Applicati n N .	Applicant(s)	•
10/627,523	BROUSSARD, HARRY	
Examiner	Art Unit	
DHIRU R PATEL	2831	

N tic of All wability	10/627,523	RY	
N tic of All wability	Examiner	Art Unit	
·	DHIRU R PATEL	2831	•
The MAILING DATE of this communication appe All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT Ri- of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313	(OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this app or other appropriate communication GHTS. This application is subject to	dication. If not included will be mailed in due c	d course. THIS
1. This communication is responsive to 7/24/03 \$ 7   74   0	4	. •	
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are <u>1-4</u> .			
3. A The drawings filed on 24 July 2003 are accepted by the Ex	aminer.		:
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority una a) All b) Some* c) None of the:  1. Certified copies of the priority documents have 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  * Certified copies not received:  Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" on ted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONM THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.  5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submit INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which give	been received. been received in Application No cuments have been received in this in of this communication to file a reply ENT of this application.	national stage applicati complying with the requ S AMENDMENT or NO	uirements
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") mus	t be submitted.		
<ul> <li>(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftspers</li> <li>1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date</li> </ul>	on's Fatent Drawing Review ( F10-	ono) attached	
(b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Paper No./Mail Date Identifying indicis such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.	.84(c)) should be written on the drawin	igs in the front (not the l	back) of
each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the state of the sheet. The property of the sheet and the sheet an	sit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL n	nust be submitted. N	ote the
Attachment(s)  1. ☑ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/0 Paper No./Mail Date	8. 🛛 Examiner's Stateme	(PTO-413), e <u>0204</u> . nent/Comment	vance

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office PTOL-37 (Rev. 1-04)

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Serial Number: 10/627523

Art Unit: 2831

## **DETAILED ACTION**

# Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-4 are allowed.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

The primary reasons for the indication of the allowability of claims 1-4 are the inclusion therein, in combination as currently claimed, of the limitation of a protective electrical outlet device comprising: a slide plate with male engagement fingers that slides on said back face of said cover plate to hold said cover securely in place.

The previously listed limitation is neither disclosed nor taught by the prior art of record, alone or in combination.

# Other prior art cited

2. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Mann, Bogdanoves et al, Siemon et al, and Conner et al disclose a cover similar to applicant's claimed invention.

## **Contact information**

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dhiru Patel whose telephone number is (571) 272—1983. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays- Thursdays from 6:30 am to 4:00 pm. The fax number for this Group is 703-872-9306. Any inquiry of a general nature or

Serial Number: 10/627523

Art Unit: 2831

(relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-2800 ext 31.

**Dhiru Patel Primary Examiner** Group Art Unit 2831 March 2, 2004

Dhirur Path

Primary Examina

3/2104.



# Interview Summary

Application N .	Applicant(s)		
10/627,523	BROUSSARD, HARRY		
Examin r	Art Unit		
DHIRU R PATEL	2831		

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO	personnel):					
(¾) <u>DHIRU R PATEL</u> .	(3)		•			
(2) <u>Kurt Myers</u> .	(4)					
Date of Interview: 24 February 2004.					•	
Type: a)⊠ Telephonic b)□ Video Conference c)□ Personal [copy given to: 1)□ applicant	2)⊡ applican	t's represer	ntative]			
Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d) Yes If Yes, brief description:	e)⊠ No.					
Claim(s) discussed: 1.3 and 4 and the specification.						
Identification of prior art discussed: None.				•		
Agreement with respect to the claims f) was reached.	g)□ was not r	reached. h	n)□ N/A.			
Substance of Interview including description of the genera reached, or any other comments: <u>The specification being a 4 being revised in order to put the case in condition for allowable, if available, must be attached.</u> Also, where no allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached. THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE A INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the GIVEN ONE MONTH FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE, OR FORM, WHICHEVER IS LATER, TO FILE A STATEMENT	amended to in owance  dments which copy of the amed.)  ACTION MUS e last Office ac R THE MAILING	the examinate of the examination	er agreed that would  THE SUE ready beer THIS INT	would render render the SSTANCE Confiled, APP	er the clai claims OF THE LICANT IS UMMARY	ims S
Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse s	side or on atta	ched sheet	•			
	•					
Examin r Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachm nt to a signed Office action.		Examiner's	s signature	, if required		

#### Summary of Record of Interview Requirements

Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP), Section 713.04, Substance of Interview Must be Made of Record
A complete written statement as to the substance of any face-to-face, video conference, or telephone interview with regard to an application must be made of record in the application whether or not an agreement with the examiner was reached at the interview.

#### Title 37 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 1.133 Interviews Paragraph (b)

In every instance where reconsideration is requested in view of an interview with an examiner, a complete written statement of the reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action must be filed by the applicant. An interview does not remove the necessity for reply to Office action as specified in §§ 1.111, 1.135. (35 U.S.C. 132)

37 CFR §1.2 Business to be transacted in writing.

All business with the Patent or Trademark Office should be transacted in writing. The personal attendance of applicants or their attorneys or agents at the Patent and Trademark Office is unnecessary. The action of the Patent and Trademark Office will be based exclusively on the written record in the Office. No attention will be paid to any alleged oral promise, stipulation, or understanding in relation to which there is disagreement or doubt.

The action of the Patent and Trademark Office cannot be based exclusively on the written record in the Office if that record is itself incomplete through the failure to record the substance of interviews.

It is the responsibility of the applicant or the attorney or agent to make the substance of an interview of record in the application file, unless the examiner indicates he or she will do so. It is the examiner's responsibility to see that such a record is made and to correct material inaccuracies which bear directly on the question of patentability.

Examiners must complete an Interview Summary Form for each interview held where a matter of substance has been discussed during the interview by checking the appropriate boxes and filling in the blanks. Discussions regarding only procedural matters, directed solely to restriction requirements for which interview recordation is otherwise provided for in Section 812.01 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure, or pointing out typographical errors or unreadable script in Office actions or the like, are excluded from the interview recordation procedures below. Where the substance of an interview is completely recorded in an Examiners Amendment, no separate Interview Summary Record is required.

The Interview Summary Form shall be given an appropriate Paper No., placed in the right hand portion of the file, and listed on the "Contents" section of the file wrapper. In a personal interview, a duplicate of the Form is given to the applicant (or attorney or agent) at the conclusion of the interview. In the case of a telephone or video-conference interview, the copy is mailed to the applicant's correspondence address either with or prior to the next official communication. If additional correspondence from the examiner is not likely before an allowance or if other circumstances dictate, the Form should be mailed promptly after the interview rather than with the next official communication.

The Form provides for recordation of the following information:

- Application Number (Series Code and Serial Number)
- Name of applicant
- Name of examiner
- Date of interview
- Type of interview (telephonic, video-conference, or personal)
- Name of participant(s) (applicant, attorney or agent, examiner, other PTO personnel, etc.)
- An indication whether or not an exhibit was shown or a demonstration conducted
- An identification of the specific prior art discussed
- An indication whether an agreement was reached and if so, a description of the general nature of the agreement (may be by attachment of a copy of amendments or claims agreed as being allowable). Note: Agreement as to allowability is tentative and does not restrict further action by the examiner to the contrary.
- The signature of the examiner who conducted the interview (if Form is not an attachment to a signed Office action)

It is desirable that the examiner orally remind the applicant of his or her obligation to record the substance of the interview of each case. It should be noted, however, that the Interview Summary Form will not normally be considered a complete and proper recordation of the interview unless it includes, or is supplemented by the applicant or the examiner to include, all of the applicable items required below concerning the substance of the interview.

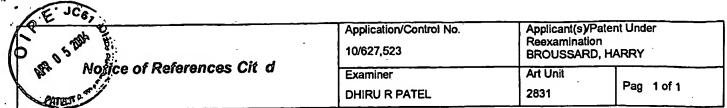
A complete and proper recordation of the substance of any interview should include at least the following applicable items:

- 1) A brief description of the nature of any exhibit shown or any demonstration conducted,
- 2) an identification of the claims discussed,
- 3) an identification of the specific prior art discussed,
- 4) an identification of the principal proposed amendments of a substantive nature discussed, unless these are already described on the Interview Summary Form completed by the Examiner,
- 5) a brief identification of the general thrust of the principal arguments presented to the examiner,
  - (The identification of arguments need not be lengthy or elaborate. A verbatim or highly detailed description of the arguments is not required. The identification of the arguments is sufficient if the general nature or thrust of the principal arguments made to the examiner can be understood in the context of the application file. Of course, the applicant may desire to emphasize and fully describe those arguments which he or she feels were or might be persuasive to the examiner.)
- 6) a general indication of any other pertinent matters discussed, and
- 7) if appropriate, the general results or outcome of the interview unless already described in the Interview Summary Form completed by the examiner.

Examiners are expected to carefully review the applicant's record of the substance of an interview. If the record is not complete and accurate, the examiner will give the applicant an extendable one month time period to correct the record.

#### **Examiner to Check for Accuracy**

If the claims are allowable for other reasons of record, the examiner should send a letter setting forth the examiner's version of the statement attributed to him or her. If the record is complete and accurate, the examiner should place the indication, "interview Record OK" on the paper recording the substance of the interview along with the date and the examiner's initials.



#### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*	•	Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Name	Classification
水	įΑ	US-3,859,454	01-1975	Mann, Milton	174/66
×	В	US-5,577,603	11-1996	Bogdanovs et al.	200/331
X-	С	US-5,804,765	09-1998	Siemon et al.	174/65R
*	D	US-5,577,602	11-1996	Conner et al.	174/66X
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### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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	N					
	0				•	
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#### NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Include as applicable: Author, Title Date, Publisher, Edition or Volume, Pertinent Pages)
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"A copy of this reference is not being furnished with this Office action. (See MPEP § 707.05(a).)

Dates in MM-YYYY format are publication dates. Classifications may be US or foreign.

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office PTO-892 (Rev. 01-2001)

**Notice of References Cited** 

Part of Paper No. 0204